

ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL

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4.

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*Sometimes the Mediator
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Room No.—Bldg.

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5041-102

OPTIONAL FORM 41 (Rev. 7-76)

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* GPO : 1982 O - 361-529 (220)

ABILENE, KANSAS
REFLECTOR-CHRONICLE

E-5,527

MAY 18 1985

(More Foreign Researchers To Ike Library)

Approximately 40 percent of the researchers coming to the Eisenhower Library here today are from outside the United States, according to Dr. John Wickman, director of the Eisenhower Center.

"This large increase in foreign researchers is in part due to the fact that within the past couple of years we have opened some 300,000 papers and other material on foreign relations during the Eisenhower era," he said in a talk to the Rotary Club Friday noon.

Wickman disclosed that plans already are beginning to take shape for a year-long Eisenhower Centennial starting in 1990.

The Library and Museum collections are continuing to grow, he explained, but some 200,000 of the well over 20 million copies of papers are still classified. "Strange as it may sound the CIA, State Department and Army are among the easiest to work with insofar as declassification of documents are concerned," he said. The CIA even sent a team of experts to Abilene to go over material, with authority to declassify much of it as no longer secret material.

Wickman said the average stay of researchers in Abilene is about three or four days, although many stay for longer periods and one "lived" here for six months.